

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 SAB-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10 ACDA-10 AID-05 /097 W

----- 041669

R 030917Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5020
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS AMMAN 4484

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JO, IS, XF

SUBJ: PM RIFAI'S COMMENTS ON JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS
AND QUADRIPARTITE FORMIN CONFERENCE

1. IN INTERVIEW WITH GOJ-SPONSORED DAILY AR-RAYY
JULY 3, PM RIFAI RESPONDED TO QUESTION ON ISRAELI ANNOUNCEMENT
OF PLANNED NEW EXCAVATIONS IN AREA OF AQSA MOSQUE AND DOME OF
ROCK BY NOTING THAT SCHEME IS CONTINUATION OF GOI POLICY SINCE
1967 " FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALTERING THE HISTORICAL CHARACTER
OF THE CITY. THIS CONTINUATION -- DESPITE THE REPEATED CONDEMNATION
OF ISRAEL BY THE UN AND ITS AGENCIES -- AFFIRMS WHAT JORDAN HAS
PREVIOUSLY DECLARED, THAT IS, THAT ISRAEL IS THE SOLE AUTHORITY
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OBSTRUCTION OF PEACE EFFORTS...." RIFAI
FURTHER NOTED THAT SUCH EXCAVATIONS, AS WELL AS OTHER ISRAELI
MEASURES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES SUCH AS ESTABLISHING COLONIES,
"ARRESTING CITIZENS, PERSECUTING THE INHABITANTS, AND THE IM-
POSITION OF COLLECTIVE PENALTIES ON TOWNS AND VILLAGES, " NECESSI-
TATE URGENT ARAB RESPONSE TO REVEAL SUCH VIOLATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY.

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2. ASKED TO COMMENT ON NON-JORDANIAN PRESS REPORTS THAT QUADRI-PARTITE CONFERENCE OF JORDANIAN, EGYPTIAN, SYRIAN AND PLO FOREIGN MINISTERS PLANNED, RIFAI RESPONDED THAT JORDAN ALWAYS READY TO ATTEND ANY CONFERENCE WHOSE AIM IS TO FURTHER ARAB SOLIDARITY. HOWEVER, SUCH A CONF. HAS NOT BEEN PLANNED, NOR HAS DATE OR PLACE BEEN SET. "NEVERTHELESS, JORDAN'S POSITION IS WELL-KNOWN: WHILE JORDAN WILL PARTICIPATE IN ANY CONFERENCE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND COORDINATE EFFORTS, WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE DECISIONS OF THE 7TH ARAB SUMMIT CONF. THE PLO THUS MUST BEAR ALL RESPONSIBILITY AND MUST PARTICIPATE IN ANY DISCUSSIONS RELATED TO A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT."

PICKERING

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NNN

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